

1. (FIVE TIMES AMENDED) A light control element, extending in a plane and spaced from a reflecting sheet, to direct light emitted from a light source [for display], comprising:

F1 a light entrance side to receive the light emitted from the light source and exiting from a light guide plate, that includes a prismatic surface having repeated projections with slopes inclined with respect to the plane of said light control element; and

a' a light emitting side, spaced from the light entrance side [towards the display], to emit diffused light passing through said light control element from the light entrance side toward the light emitting side;

wherein [at least] only part of said repeated projections [slopes] define a light diffusible surface to generate the diffused light while the light emitted from the light source is radiating within the light control element toward the light emitting side such that [the] a surface of the light emitting side is illuminated in a substantially uniform manner, reducing light effects of the reflecting sheet.

2. (TWICE AMENDED) A light control element according to claim 1, wherein F2 said repeated projections extend in one common direction and are repeatedly arranged in a direction perpendicular to said one common direction, each of said repeated projections having a substantially triangular cross section.

F3 3. (ONCE AMENDED) A light control element according to claim 1, wherein said light diffusible surface is a rough surface.

4. (FIVE TIMES AMENDED) A surface light source device of side light type, comprising:

F4 a light guide plate² having an incidence end surface, an exiting surface and an incline surface gradually decreasing away from the incidence end surface;

a reflecting sheet¹¹ disposed along the inclined surface of the light guide plate;

a primary light source⁶ [for] supplying illumination light to said light guide plate from said incidence end surface, the supplied light being deflected in the light guide plate and emitted from the exiting surface of the light guide plate; and

a light control element¹² disposed along the exiting surface of said light guide plate, the light control element extending in a plane, having a light entrance side with a prismatic surface adjacent to said light guide plate, and having a light emitting side, spaced from the light entrance side, said prismatic surface having repeated projections with slopes inclined with respect to the plane of said light control element, at least part of said slopes defining a light diffusible surface to generate diffused light while the light emanating from the light guide plate is radiating within the light control element from the light entrance side towards the light emitting side, such that [the] a surface of the light emitting side is illuminated in a substantially uniform manner, reducing light effects of the reflecting sheet.

F4
Cont. 5. (ONCE AMENDED) A surface light source device of side light type according to claim 4, wherein said projections extend in one common direction and are repeatedly arranged in a direction perpendicularly to said one common direction, each of said projections having a substantially triangular cross section.

F5 6. (ONCE AMENDED) A surface light source device of side light type according to claim 4, wherein said light diffusible surface is a rough surface.

7. (THREE TIMES AMENDED) A surface light source device of side light type, comprising:

F6 a light guide plate having an inclined side and an exiting surface to emit light;
a reflecting sheet, disposed along the inclined side of the light guide plate, to reflect light back to the light guide plate; and

a light control element that includes a light entrance side, only portions of which include [said light control element having] an inner light diffusible surface that receives the light emitted from the exiting surface of the light guide plate through the light entrance side, [and] said light control element further including a light emitting side spaced from the light entrance side away from the light guide plate, wherein the diffusible surface generates diffused light while the light emitted from the exiting surface of the light guide plate is radiating within the light control element toward the light emitting side such that [the] a surface of the light

F6
Cmt. emitting side is illuminated in a substantially uniform manner, reducing light effects of the reflecting sheet.

8. (NOT AMENDED) A ~~light control~~ element according to claim 2, wherein said ~~light diffusible surface~~ is a rough surface.

9. (NOT AMENDED) A surface light source device of side light type according to claim 5, wherein said light diffusible surface is a rough surface.

[Please ADD new claim 10 as follows.]

F7
10. (NEW) A surface light source device of side light type, comprising:
a light guide plate having an incidence end surface, an exiting surface and an incline surface gradually decreasing away from the incidence end surface;
a reflecting sheet disposed along the inclined surface of the light guide plate;
a primary light source supplying illumination light to said light guide plate from said incidence end surface, the supplied light being deflected in the light guide plate and emitted from the exiting surface of the light guide plate; and
a light control element disposed along the exiting surface of said light guide plate, the light control element extending in a plane, having a light entrance side with a

Serial No.: 08/772,259

Docket No.: 1185\1018\STB

F7
cont.
prismatic surface adjacent to said light guide plate, and having a light emitting side, spaced from the light entrance side, said prismatic surface having repeated projections with slopes inclined with respect to the plane of said light control element, with only part of said repeated projections defining a light diffusible surface to generate diffused light while the light emanating from the light guide plate is radiating within the light control element from the light entrance side towards the light emitting side, such that the surface of the light emitting side is illuminated in a substantially uniform manner, reducing light effects of the reflecting sheet.
